

no fresh meat to be had, what fresh fish is brought in must be sold to the soldiers first, and the inhabitants not allowed to touch any till the soldiers are supplied; no wood nor coal to be had for money, many houses are already pulled down for fuel, and it is supposed that all the wooden buildings that are not improved will undergo the same fate before the spring. Flour very scarce, the price 40s. sterl. per cwt, no roots except a few potatoes for the soldiers.

Frederick county, Maryland, Nov. 24, 1775.

SIR,
I AM directed, by the committee of this county, to transmit to you copies of the examinations of Allen Cameron, John Smith, John Connelly, and a letter to one Gibson from Connelly, and Lord Dunmore's speech to White Eyes, and proposals by Connelly to gen. Gage for raising an army for the destruction of the liberties of the colonies. Any orders relative to the prisoners will be strictly observed, the committee and inhabitants of this county being determined to pursue every measure which the congress may recommend to them, as necessary for the preservation of these colonies, at this time of imminent danger. I am very respectfully, Sir,

Your most humble servant,
JOHN HANSON, jun. chairman.

The honourable John Hancock, Esq;
president of the congress.

Frederick town, Maryland.

In COMMITTEE CHAMBER, November 27, 1775.

Allen Cameron, Dr. John Smith, and John Connelly, being taken into custody, were brought before the committee, and the following examinations were taken.

Allen Cameron, a native of Scotland, which he left for an affair of honour, and came to Virginia, with an intention to purchase back lands, and intended to go to Henderson for that purpose; but finding it difficult to pass through the back country, encouraged by Lord Dunmore and promise of advancement, he agreed to accept a commission as first lieutenant in the regiment to be raised by col. Connelly.

Dr. John Smith, a native of Scotland, left Charles county, Maryland, for political reasons, and intended to go to the Mississippi, but finding it impracticable, he returned to Norfolk, and being induced by Lord Dunmore, with promises of preferment, he accepted the appointment of surgeon to col. Connelly's regiment.

John Connelly, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, admits his letter to Gibson, a copy being shewn him. He went the 25th of July from Fort Dunmore to Lord Dunmore, and delivered him proposals in substance the same with that found in his possession, and in his hand writing. That he was sent by Lord Dunmore to general Gage with letters; and his proposals to Gage; that he left Boston the 14th or 15th of Sept. and returned to Lord Dunmore in the middle of October; that he brought instructions from gen. Gage to Lord Dunmore, who granted him a commission of lieutenant colonel commandant of a regiment to be raised in the back parts and Canada, with powers to nominate officers, who were to be confirmed by Lord Dunmore; that he is now on his way to Detroit, where he was to meet his commission and instructions; that he left Lord Dunmore about ten days ago, who had with him one sloop of 16 guns, and another of 18; that the ship in which Lord Dunmore is on board, is armed with 6 or 8 guns; that a vessel of 20 guns is daily expected from Jamaica; that John Smith never was appointed surgeon, and that he told Smith if he was the man he represented himself to be, it was possible he would appoint him.

Resolved, That the said Allen Cameron, and John Connelly be kept in close and safe custody, until the orders of the congress be known; and that the chairman transmit copies of the examinations and papers to the honourable the president of the congress, add to the conventions or councils of safety of the colony of Virginia and this province.

Resolved, That Dr. John Smith be kept in custody till the farther orders of this committee.

Proposals for raising an army to the Westward, and for effectually establishing a communication between the Southern and Northern governments.

As I have, by directions from his excellency Lord Dunmore, prepared the Ohio Indians to act in concert with me against his majesty's enemies in that quarter, and have also dispatched intelligence to the different officers of the militia on the frontiers of Augusta county, in Virginia, giving them Lord Dunmore's assurance that such of them as shall hereafter evince their loyalty to his majesty, by putting themselves under my command, when I should appear amongst them with proper authority for that purpose, of a confirmation of titles to their lands, and the quantity of three hundred acres to all who should take up arms in support of the constitution, when the present rebellion subsided, I will undertake to penetrate through Virginia, and join his excellency Lord Dunmore at Alexandria early next spring, on the following conditions and authority

First, That your excellency will give me a commission to act as major commandant of such troops as I may raise, and embody on the frontier, with a power to command to the westward and employ such serviceable French and English partizans as I can engage by pecuniary rewards or otherwise.

Secondly, That your excellency will give orders to capt. Lord, at the Illinois, to remove himself, with the garrison under his command, from Fort George to Detroit, by the Auabache, bringing with him all the artillery, stores &c. &c. to facilitate which undertaking he is to have authority to hire boats, horses, Frenchmen, Indians, &c. &c. to proceed with all possible expedition on that rout, as the weather may occasionally permit, and to put himself under my command on his arrival at Detroit.

Thirdly, That the commissary at Detroit shall be empowered to furnish such provisions as I may judge necessary for the good of the service, and that the commanding officer shall be instructed to give every possible assistance in encouraging the French and Indians of that settlement to join me.

Fourthly, That an officer of artillery be immediately sent with me to pursue such rout as I may find most expedient to gain Detroit, with orders to have such pieces of light ordnance as may be thought re-

quisite for the demolishing of Fort Dunmore and Fort Mifflin, if resistance should be made by the rebels in possession of those garrisons.

Fifthly, That your excellency will empower me to make such reasonable presents to the Indian chiefs, and others, as may urge them to act with vigour in the execution of my orders.

Sixthly, That your excellency will send to Lord Dunmore such arms as may be spared, in order to equip such persons as may be willing to serve his majesty at our junction, in the vicinity of Alexandria, &c. &c. If your excellency judges it expedient for the good of the service, to furnish me with the authority and other requisites I have mentioned, I shall embrace the earliest opportunity of setting off for Canada, and shall immediately dispatch Lord Dunmore's armed schooner, which now awaits my commands, with an account of what your excellency has done, and that I shall be ready, if practicable, to join his lordship by the twentieth of April, at Alexandria, where the troops under my command may fortify themselves under cover of the men of war on that station.

If, on the contrary, your excellency should not approve of what I propose, you will be good enough to immediately honour me with your dispatches to the earl of Dunmore, that I may return as early as possible.

Perthmouth, August 9, 1775.

I HAVE safely arrived here and am happy to the greatest degree in having so fortunately escaped the narrow inspection of my enemies, the enemies to their country, to good order and government. I should esteem myself defective in point of friendship towards you, should I neglect to caution you to avoid an over zealous exertion of what is now so ridiculously called patriotic spirit; but, on the contrary, to deport yourself with that moderation for which you have been always remarkable, and which must, in this instance, tend to your honour and advantage. You may be assured from me, Sir, that nothing but the greatest unanimity now prevails at home, and that the innovating spirit amongst us here is looked upon as ungenerous and undutiful; and that the utmost exertions of the powers of government, if necessary, will be used to convince the insatuated people of their folly. I could, assure you, Sir, give you such convincing proofs of what I assert, and from which every reasonable person may conclude the effects, that nothing but madness could operate upon a man so far as to overlook his duty to the present constitution, and to form unwarrantable associations with enthusiasts, whose ill-timed folly must draw upon them inevitable destruction. His lordship desires you to present his hand to captain White Eyes, and to assure him that he is very sorry that he had not the pleasure of seeing him at the treaty, or that the situation of affairs prevented him from coming down.

Believe me, dear Sir, that I have no motive in writing my sentiments thus to you, farther than to endeavour to clear you clear of the misfortunes which, I am confident, must involve but unhappily too many. I have sent you an address from the people of Great-Britain to the people of America, and I desire you to consider it attentively, which will, I flatter myself, convince you of the idleness of many declamations, and of the absurdity of an intended slavery. Give my love to George, and tell him that he shall hear from me, and I hope to his advantage. Interpret the inclosed speech to captain White Eyes from his lordship. Be prevailed upon to shun the popular error, and judge for yourself; set as a good subject, and expect the rewards due to your services.

I am, dear Sir,

Your sincere friend and servant,
"JOHN CONNELLY."

To Mr. John Gibson, near Fort Dunmore.

Brother captain White Eyes,

I am glad to hear your good speeches sent me by major Connelly, and you may be assured I shall put the one end of the belt, which you have sent me, into the hands of our great king, who will be glad to hear from his brothers the Delawares, and will take a strong hold of it. You may rest satisfied, that our foolish young men shall never be permitted to have your lands, but on the contrary, the great king will protect you, and preserve you in the possession of them. Our young people in the country have been very foolish, and done many imprudent things, for which they soon must be sorry, and of which I make no doubt they have acquainted you. But I must desire you not to listen to them, as they would be willing that you should act equally foolish with themselves. But rather let what you hear pass in at one ear and out at the other, so that it may make no impression on your heart until you hear from me fully, which will be so soon as I can give him farther information, who am your friend and brother.

Captain White Eyes will please to acquaint the Corn stalk with these my sentiments also, as well the chiefs of the Mingoes, and the other six nations.

Your sincere friend and elder brother,

"DUNMORE."

A true copy from the minutes,

UPTON SHREVEPIKE, clerk, pro tem.

Published by order of congress,

CHARLES THOMPSON, secretary.

Extract of a letter from general Schuyler, dated Albany, December 14, 1775.

The Indians delivered us a speech on the 22th, in which they related the substance of all the conferences colonel Johnson had with them the last summer, concluding with that at Montreal, where he delivered to each of the Canadian tribes a war belt and the hatchet, who accepted it. After which they were invited to FEAST ON A BOSTONIAN AND DRINK HIS BLOOD. An ox being roasted for the purpose, and a pipe of wine given to drink, the war song was sung. One of the chiefs of the Six Nations, that attended at that conference, accepted a very large black war belt with a hatchet depicted in it; but would neither eat nor drink, nor sing the war song. This famous belt they have delivered up, and we have now a full proof that the ministerial servants have attempted to engage the savages against us.

IN CONGRESS, December 14, 1775.

Whereas this congress, by a resolution passed the 15th day of July last, did direct, that every vessel importing into these colonies gunpowder, salt-petre, sulphur, and other military stores therein specified, within nine months from the date thereof, should be permitted to load and export the produce of these colonies to the value of such powder and stores aforesaid, the non-transportation agreement notwithstanding, by permits from the committees of the several colonies, to the end therefore that this congress may be better informed of the quantity of military stores which are or shall be imported, and of the produce exported in consequence of the resolution aforesaid:

Resolved, That it be recommended to all committees, by whom any permits under this resolution have been or may be granted, to transmit to this congress, from time to time, a true account of the military stores imported, and of the produce exported, with the price and value of both.

Published by order of congress,

CHARLES THOMPSON, sec.

Extract of a letter from Cambridge, Dec. 15.

The small-pox is in every part of Boston. The soldiers who have never had it are under inoculation, and considered as a security against any attack by the provincials. A third ship load of the inhabitants is come out to Point Shirley. It is thought almost impossible to keep the small-pox out of the camp and country adjacent; but every precaution is taken which prudence can suggest.

Extract of a letter from Cambridge, Dec. 13.

I have the satisfaction to tell you things wear a better complexion here than they have done for some time past. The army is filling up. The barracks go on well. Firewood comes in. The soldiers are made comfortable and easy. Our privateers meet with success in bringing in vessels that were going to the relief of Boston, which town is in great distress; besides wanting almost every necessary, they are inoculating for the small-pox, and the dysentery and black jaundice prevails, which makes the officers uneasy. No troops are yet arrived from Ireland. The three men of war which appeared off Marblehead, are since gone off without doing any damage.

A LETTER from General LEE to General BURGONYNE.

Camp on Prospect Hill, Dec. 14, 1775.

Dear Sir,

AS I am just informed you are ready to embark for England, I cannot refrain from once more trespassing on your patience. An opportunity is now presented of immortalizing yourself as the saviour of your country. The whole British empire stands tottering on the brink of ruin, and you have it in your power to prevent the fatal catastrophe, but it will admit of no delay. For heaven's sake avail yourself of the precious moment; put an end to the delusion, exert the voice of a brave, virtuous citizen, and tell the people at home that they must immediately rescind all their impolitic, iniquitous, tyrannical, murderous acts; that they must overturn the whole frantic system, or that they are undone. You ask me, in your letter, if it is independence at which the Americans aim? I answer no; the idea never entered a single American's head, until a most intolerable oppression forced it upon them. All they required was to remain masters of their own property, and be governed by the same equitable laws which they had enjoyed from the first formation of the colonies. The ties of connexion, which bound them to their parent country, were so dear to them, that he who would have ventured to have touched them would have been considered as the most impious of mortals; but these sacred ties, the same men who have violated or trifled the most precious laws and rights of the people at home, dissipated or refused to account for their treasures, tarnished the glory, and annihilated the importance of the nation, these sacred ties, I say, so dear to every American, Bute and his tory administration are now rending asunder.

You ask, whether it is the weight of taxes of which they complain? I answer no, it is the principle they combat, and they would be guilty in the eyes of God and men, of the present world and all posterity did they not reject it; for if it were admitted, they would have nothing that they could call their own. They would be in a worse condition than the wretched slaves in the West-India islands, whose little peculium has ever been esteemed inviolate. But wherefore should I dwell on this? Is not the case of Ireland the same with theirs? They are subordinate to the British empire; they are subordinate to the parliament of Great-Britain; but they tax themselves. Why, as the case is similar, do not you begin with them? But you know Mr. Burgoyne, audacious as the ministry are, they dare not attempt it. There is one part of your letter which I confess I do not thoroughly understand. If I recollect right, for I unfortunately have not the letter by me, you say that if the privilege of taxing themselves is what the Americans claim, then content is at an end. You surely cannot allude to the propositions of North. It is impossible that you should not think with me, and all mankind, that these propositions are no more or less than adding to a most abominable oppression a more abominable insult. But to recur to the question of America's aiming at independence? Do any intrusion of any one of the provinces to their representatives or delegates furnish the least ground for this suspicion? On the contrary, do they not all breathe the strongest attachment and filial piety for their parent country? But if the discards all the natural tenderness of a mother, and acts the part of a cruel step-dame, it must naturally be expected that their affections cease; the ministry leave them no alternative, but service, *aut servare, aut alicuius juberet*; it is in human nature, it is a moral obligation to adopt the latter; but the fatal separation has not yet taken place, and yourself, your single self, my friends, may perhaps prevent it. Upon the ministry, I am afraid, you can make no impression; for to repeat a hackneyed quotation,

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